

**THIRD AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

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Serial No.: 09/479,648

Filed: January 7, 2000

For: METHOD OF APPLYING ADHESIVE COATED FILM

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**REMARKS**

Applicants received the Advisory Action dated 17 December 2002. Claims 20-28, 41, 42, 45-56, and 62-66 have been cancelled. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 29-31, 34-40, and 57-61 will be pending.

Although Applicants continue to respectfully disagree with the rejections presented in the Final Office Action of October 7, 2002, Applicants have canceled the rejected claims and made amendments to place the present application in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the rejected claims and dispute the assertions made in support of the rejections of those claims in continuation applications.

**Amended Claim 57**

Applicants note that claim 64 was indicated as allowable in the Advisory Action and the Final Office Action. Claim 64 depended directly from independent claim 57. Applicants present herewith proposed amended claim 57 including the recitations of canceled claim 64.

As a result, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claim 57 and its dependent claims 58-61 are all in condition for allowance.

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**CONCLUSION**

It is respectfully submitted that claims 29-31, 34-40, and 57-61 as presented herein are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Representatives, at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8:**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile in accordance with 37 CFR §1.6(d) to the Patent and Trademark Office, addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Attn: BOX AF, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2003, at 2:07 pm (Central Time).

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Respectfully submitted,

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**APPENDIX A - AMENDMENTS INCLUDING NOTATIONS TO INDICATE CHANGES  
MADE****Serial No.: 09/479,648****Docket No.: 54655US009**

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Amendments to the following are indicated by underlining what has been added and bracketing what has been deleted. Additionally, all amendments to preexisting claims have been put in bold typeface.

**In the Claims**

For convenience, all pending claims are shown below.

29. A method of saving labor of adhering an adhesive-coated film to a substrate having a surface, comprising:
- (a) distributing a film to a party that has been taught to use the method of Claim 34;
  - (b) optionally permitting such party to print an image on the film; and
  - (c) permitting such party to use the method to adhere the film to a surface of the substrate.
30. A kit for application of films to a substrate, comprising:
- a) a Heat Neutral Pressure source, and
  - b) a heat source adapted for applying heat to an adhesive coated film during application to a substrate.
31. The kit of claim 30, further comprising a film having removable adhesive coated thereon.
34. A method of applying an adhesive-coated film to a substrate, the method comprising:
- providing a film comprising pressure sensitive adhesive coated on a major surface of the film;
  - heating the film to the softening point of the film; and
  - pressing the film against a substrate with a Heat Neutral Pressure Source after heating the film, wherein the pressure sensitive adhesive on the major surface of the film adheres to the substrate.

**Appendix A**

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35. A method according to claim 34, wherein the heating comprises heating the film using hot air.

36. A method according to claim 34, wherein the heating comprises heating the film using infrared radiation.

37. A method according to claim 34, wherein the Heat Neutral Pressure Source comprises a Thermal Conductivity of less than 1.8 BTU/hr-in-ft<sup>2</sup>-°F.

38. A method according to claim 34, wherein the Heat Neutral Pressure Source comprises open cell foam material.

39. A method according to claim 34, wherein the Heat Neutral Pressure Source comprises a roller.

40. A method according to claim 34, wherein the substrate comprises a highly textured surface.

57. (AMENDED) A method of applying an adhesive-coated film to a substrate, the method comprising:

providing a film comprising pressure-sensitive adhesive coated on a major surface of the film;

heating the film to the softening point of the film using a heat source; and

pressing the film against a substrate with a Heat Neutral Pressure Source, the Heat Neutral Pressure Source comprising a Thermal Conductivity of less than 1.8 BTU/hr-in-ft<sup>2</sup>-°F, wherein the adhesive on the major surface of the film adheres to the substrate.

**Appendix A**

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58. A method according to claim 57, wherein the heating comprises heating the film using hot air.

59. A method according to claim 57, wherein the heating comprises heating the film using infrared radiation.

60. A method according to claim 57, wherein the Heat Neutral Pressure Source comprises open cell foam material.

61. A method according to claim 57, wherein the substrate comprises a highly textured surface.